

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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COMMISSION.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 8, 1975

Mr. David W. Belin  
Executive Director  
Commission on CIA Activities  
Within the United States

Dear Mr. Belin:

Per our conversation in your office  
this morning, I attach the only materials we have  
that relate to Allen Dulles and the Warren  
Commission.

There may be other papers in the hands  
of the Dulles family or at Princeton University.

Faithfully yours,

*E. H. Knoche*

E. H. Knoche  
Assistant to the Director

Attachment: a/s

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14p 12 Apr 95  
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JC 8 Aug 94  
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Review of Personal Papers of Mr. Dulles

I reviewed the personal papers of Mr. Dulles covering the period after his departure from the Agency and while he was a member of the Warren Commission. I also reviewed Agency historical documents relating to Cuba. The review did not turn up anything of special significance or importance. For the most part, Mr. Dulles' papers included correspondence dealing with his book, personal contacts, and social activities. I have attached copies of all material in his papers that in any way dealt with the Kennedy assassination or the work of the Warren Commission. I have also attached relevant individual items culled from his daily diary.

*Joseph Seltzer*  
Joseph Seltzer

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*JR* 8 Aug 94  
(this page)

16 July 1964

Mr. Helms. Re call from Lee Rankin about wording to be used in report. Chief Justice assured Mr. McCone nothing would be included.

File

Sherman Hoar

Sherman Hoar  
Chapman (iddick Island &  
Edgartown, Mass.

(?)

November 5, 1943

Dear Mr. Butler,

I was sorry not to have the opportunity to see you during my brief visit to Washington. I would like to have paid my respects and to have offered to assist you in any way that I might during your service on the Commission of Investigation of the President's assassination.

The labors of this Commission will be most vital and can contribute to - must contribute to - the preservation of the political and social fabric of the nation.

It was my feeling that perhaps I could help you again as I used to in DCB and Special Group matters as an intelligent and informed leg man, a coordinator, a gatherer of information - in essence "a bearer of word & carrier of water." As you know I have handled before - The British & Germans, been

know my way around Washington in all branches of the government - The National War College.

Of most importance, I have a personal angle. Mr. Kennedy was a friend and classmate. I would like to contribute to a dignified assessment of the whys and to the positive conclusions which would lay a basis for favorable socio-political awakening:

The Commission, I presume & command, would work through existing agencies. It must however guide the reporting from those agencies and, at times, suggest further lines of investigation. In this area I could also be of help.

At present I am awaiting the start of the next school year when I shall resume my pre CIA career as a Professor of Economics. I am available if you should need my services.

If you do need my services or

not I know that the investigation  
of this tragic event is in good  
hands. It is a most important  
responsibility. Its results will have  
 manifold implications for the future.  
I wish you well.

Sincerely,

Sherman H. H. [Signature]

About 5:30 on Friday, November 29, while I was sitting around the fire after a game of golf at Lloyd Neck, the telephone rang and I was advised that the President wanted to speak with me. I went to the phone and the White House operator said that the President wanted to speak with me, that he was on another line, and would I hold on for a minute. After a short wait the operator told me that someone had gone into the room and that she would call me back.

She called me back in five minutes. This gave me a brief chance to puzzle out what it was the President wanted to say to me. As it turned out, aided by some news items that the President was considering appointing a high-level commission to look into all the circumstances of the assassination of the President, I was led to put this as the first possibility. Soon the call came through. The President was on the line. I told him how much my thoughts had been with him in recent days. He thanked me. Then in a very kind expression of appreciation for what he thought I had done for the country over the years, he said he wished me to do a job for him. I asked him what it was. He said he was appointing a commission to look into all the circumstances surrounding the assassination and the later killing of the man believed responsible for the assassination. This commission would include the Chief Justice, members of the House and Senate from both parties, and two men outside of government, including myself, if I would serve.

I told the President without hesitation that I was prepared to serve if he felt I could be of service to him and the nation. I said that I assumed that he had considered my recent job and that he did not consider that this service was in any way an impediment. He said he had carefully considered it and he felt that, on the contrary, it would be helpful. I said I assumed that what he had told me was entirely confidential. He said it was until it was announced and he did not know the exact hour of that. I said I would, of course, maintain the confidence.

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Telephone Items from Diary of Mr. Dulles

22 November 1963 - 3 P.M.

Returned to Washington (from Williamsburg) - with John Warner after hearing of JFK's death.

6 December 1963

06  
(Mr. Jose Colon), Madison Hotel. Reported that group of air force officers had planned to try to impeach President Kennedy before next re-election. AWD advised he reported to FBI. Only lead to identities is that one was former air attache in Czechoslovakia. (Colon) with North American Aviation Company.

6 December 1963

Mr. Ray Cline. Requested an assessment of reaction abroad to assassination, done by important areas -- Soviet, Satellite, Chinese. What line they are taking, etc?

27 January 1964

Mr. Angleton. Stated that it was all right to give the Rockwell Report to the Commission.

28 January 1964

Mr. Rocca. Mentioned article in Labor Monthly by Palme "After Kennedy"; thesis is that CIA killed the President.

7-February 1964

Mr. Angleton. They are getting a lot of reports published in Italy based on Chief Justice's statements that Oswald was a CIA agent and tying him to the FBI.

5 June 1964

Congressman Ford. Would like AWD to ask some questions for him on Monday at Commission hearings since he will be unable to attend.

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(3)

(two pages)

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2/pv

December 6, 1963

Memorandum for Mr. James Angleton

Subject Letter from Mr. (Jose Colon)<sup>06</sup>

<sup>06</sup>  
Please see enclosed letter from (Jose Colon).  
Over the phone he told me that he had some information, rather vague, about some plot of air force officers to "impeach" President Kennedy, including an Air Force officer who had been attache in Czechoslovakia. I told him that such information should be brought to the attention of the FBI. He promised to do it but whether he will or not, I do not know.

I can only judge by telephone conversation in that he talked quite sanely but very vaguely.

*BJ*  
AWD

Enclosure

awd:mk

1 - chr

1 - Commission file

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*2/RW*

January 30, 1964

Memorandum for: The Honorable Lee Rankin

Attached are a few items of possible interest:

(1) a copy of an article in the January 1964 British "Labour Monthly" by, I believe, R. P. Dutt. I understand he is the editor of the "Labour Monthly" and a British Communist. I am seeking further data with regard to Dutt. I call your attention particularly to the section beginning on page 13, entitled "A C.I.A. Job?". I suggest that you might wish the CIA to send to you directly all important items of this general nature and also items bearing on the future Communist propaganda treatment of the assassination issue with their estimate, preferably coordinated with the State Department, showing the general trend of such propaganda, if there is one. It has been my experience that the Communist party of the Soviet Union exercises a good deal, but not complete, control over the propaganda activities of the various Communist parties in the free world and often uses these parties or selected ones to launch various trial balloons in the propaganda field.

(2) a letter I obtained from a source I will indicate to you orally written by George de Mohrenschildt, who you may recall appears in the Commission's records as one of the men who had contact with, and as I recall, some influence over Oswald. You will recall that the State Department had interrogated him briefly, I believe, at the insistence of the FBI. This letter might furnish a desirable basis for some further interrogation as I did not find the State Department interrogation wholly satisfactory.

(3) a letter from Robert C. McManus, who writes

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(3 1/2)

on stationery of the Senate Judiciary Committee and makes certain allegations bearing on the Commission's work. I do not know the writer and I have merely acknowledged the letter and stated I was referring it to the Commission. It may require no further answer.

Here are one or two additional thoughts I have.

(a) that we study the use made of post office boxes in connection with Oswald's activities and crimes and also ascertain the terms and conditions under which post office boxes can be rented, and whether there are uniform regulations or whether it is left more or less to the whim of local postmasters. Oswald's ability to hire a post office in a fictitious name and to use it for the receipt of firearms seems to have facilitated his criminal activities. Later the Commission might possibly wish to make some suggestions on this subject.

(b) I should be glad to see the conclusions of the recent report outlined a few days ago in The New York Times giving arguments for the shifting of the Narcotics Bureau from the Treasury Department.

(c) Do we have an adequate study by the State Department of their policy, of any legislation affecting it, with regard to the terms and conditions of the registration of undesirables? I assume that an American citizen who has not forfeited his rights as such has an undeniable right to return to the United States, but I am not clear whether this is under law or merely established practice.

(d) Do we have any recent study available as to the extent to which, under the Constitution, the rights of citizens (or residents?) to acquire and retain firearms - apart from the question of legislation with regard to the bearing of concealed arms?

Someone asserted to me the other day that tax

Mr. Rankin - Page 3

collections in Texas applicable to the maintenance of its police force, etc., were unusually low as contrasted with other states. I doubt whether this was a correct judgment as I do not think that one can segregate in Texas or elsewhere the tax collections for police as against other public services.

4  
Allen W. Dulles

Enclosures

awd:mk

1 - chr

1 - Commission official corres file

DUTT, Rajani Palme

Dutt was born in 1896 at Cambridge, England. His father, a doctor in Cambridge, belonged to a prominent Bengali family. His mother was Swedish. Was educated at Perse School in Cambridge, Balliol Oxford. He became a charter member of the British Communist party in 1920. Has been the British Communist party's leading theoretician since then.

He founded the "Labour Monthly" in 1921 and has been editor since then. Has taken an active interest in Indian Communist party affairs and was Secretary-Chairman of the British Communist party for a period in 1939. He also served for a time in the Communist party of Great Britain politburo. His standing with Moscow is excellent. In 1962 was afforded an honorary doctorate of history at Moscow University, where he lectured in April and May 1962. These lectures were published by Lawrence and Wishart in London 1963 under the title of "Problems of Contemporary History". One part of his lecture dealt with the cold war. The main theme of this section was to establish that the responsibility for the origins of the cold war rested with the West and that the West merely continued the policies of the Nazis and the Fascists.

Dutt's current position has been described as head of the international department of the Communist party of Great Britain, an office which he has held since at least 1956. He is also vice-chairman of the Communist party of Great Britain and again a member of the political and national executive committee.

February 26, 1964

Memorandum for The Honorable Lee Rankin

From

A. W. Dulles

I read with great interest the papers attached to the agenda for the Commission's meeting February 24, 1964. In J. Edgar Hoover's letter to you of February 10, 1964, on page 2, last paragraph, there is reference to Mr. Robert Storey's statement to Mr. Wade that when he, Storey, was with the War Crimes Commission in Germany after World War II, he ascertained that "the Central Intelligence Agency had informants that no one knew about, except the Central Intelligence Agency agent, and that the informant might have been an informant".

While this statement is not very clear, I would point out that the Central Intelligence Agency was not organized until late 1947 under the National Security Act of that year and that the Agency Mr. Storey is presumably referring to, if he did make the statement, must be the Office of Strategic Services, which was dissolved in late 1945. Of course, during the period of existence of the OSS, Lee Harvey Oswald was an infant.

With respect to J. Edgar Hoover's letters to you of February 11 and 13, 1964, I suggest that it may be desirable to try to clear up the confusion as to the existence of the "law enforcement officer in Dallas" who allegedly claimed that L. H. Oswald had been contacted by the FBI to become an informant. As I read the record available to me, there seems to be some conflict in the testimony of newsmen Hudkins and Golden. Very possibly this has arisen from the three contacts the FBI had with Oswald on June 26, and August 10 and 16, 1962. I do not find in the affidavits any indication of the purpose of either the June 26 or August 16 visits. The August 10 visit apparently related to the New Orleans Fair Play for Cuba incident. Have we memoranda on these visits to Lee Harvey Oswald?

AWD

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March 25, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RANKIN

FROM: A. W. Dulles

18  
I have spoken to Mr. McCone and Mr. Helms about the general subject matter of your memorandum of March 17, 1964, regarding Lee H. Oswald and the charge that he was a paid informant of the FBI, CIA or another Federal agency.

Mr. McCone is away from Washington this week, but I have suggested to Mr. Helms that the first procedure suggested by you be followed; namely, an appropriate affidavit. I understand that this is now being prepared and will be submitted to Mr. McCone upon his return early next week.

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1 - chr

1 - official Commission corres

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June 5, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE LEE RANKIN

FROM A. W. DULLES

Last evening Attorney General Carr dined with Jack McCloy and me and had one or two suggestions:

1. that the Commission might wish to interview (a) Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cabell. They were in a strategic position in the automobile procession at the time of the assassination. We saw them briefly when we visited Dallas. (b) Lewis Nichols, former President of the Dallas Bar Association, who called on Oswald in connection with the question of his being legally represented. Carr seems to think that he has some interesting information that has not been obtained. (c) Elgin Crull, City Manager of Dallas, who, as such, was in direct overall command of the police.

2. Carr also mentioned a black notebook belonging to Oswald which had two Washington telephone numbers: (a) the Russian Embassy and (b) a telephone number with no name but which was called by the Dallas police. The person answering was apparently a Negro pastor here.

18  
AWD

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1 - chr

1 - Commission official corres

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July 27, 1964

Memorandum for Lee Rankin

From A. W. Dulles

As a result of my weekend reading which I have returned with comments, I have the following comments in addition to comments noted on the material returned.

1. Where have we dealt with the evidence as to Oswald's ability to handle a rifle?

2. Where do you plan to discuss Oswald's escape pattern or plans; did he have any - if so, why did he leave \$170 at the Paines and start out with less than \$20? If he killed the President to make a name, gain notoriety, etc., why did he try to escape at all and then deny the shooting when caught? I feel we must deal with these difficult issues. I have some speculations on the subject.

3. If Marina had admitted that she had once been a member of the Komsomol, would that have changed the decision regarding her visa? I believe this has been considered by the State Department. I feel we should look into this.

4. A great deal of the description of the motorcade and the shooting will be unclear unless we have a street map and, if possible, a photo taken from the sixth floor window. Is this possible?

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5. Would it be possible and desirable to add to Chapter II a description, second by second - taken from the frames of Zaprue's photos? This, if well done, would be a most dramatic method of describing the action. I don't think we have given enough use to these photos.

6. Has there been any follow-up on the letters to the Militant - mentioned to us by Isaac Don Levine - that possibly were written by Oswald?

7. Is there any section of the report which deals with the protection of the President and Vice President when abroad? Should we not deal with this briefly?

131

AWD

awd:mk

1 - chr

1 - Pres Com - official corres